

superintendent from my alma mater, Washington State University. Go Cougs.

John was hired to serve as East Valley's superintendent in 2002, and during his tenure, three of the district's schools have been recognized by the state as distinguished schools for their teaching and learning methods.

I wish him all the best as he makes his transition into retirement and returns to farm life. I thank John for everything he has done for our districts' students, and from one lifelong farmer to another, try not to work too hard.

# IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1280, THE GEORGE FLOYD JUSTICE IN POLICING ACT OF 2021

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 1, 2021*

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to affirm my support for H.R. 1280, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021.

Last summer, in the wake of George Floyd's horrific murder, people in communities sweeping the nation and the world took to the streets to express anger born of despair. His death was not an isolated incident—but another in a long, tragic pattern of injustices committed against the Black community at the hands of law enforcement. And each incident, however severe, serves as a sobering reminder of the systemic racism still woven into the fabric of our institutions.

For many, the death of George Floyd is merely an eye-opening introduction to the harsh, unequal application of justice unfairly meted on the Black community. But for us, this is nothing new. Many decades ago, I remember having the conversation with my parents about how to act during a police encounter. Fast forward to a newer generation, I was forced to have that same conversation with my son—but it does not stop there. As my son raised his three sons, he too had to repeat this morbid discussion with my grandsons. For far too long, for too many generations, we have tolerated and suffered the consequences of racism in our way of life. But at this moment, in the wake of so much pain and grief, Congress has a moral responsibility to meet the calls for bold and transformative change.

As such to support federal policies to address this ongoing issue, I am proud to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 1280, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. This proposed legislation would: ban the use of no-knock warrants and deadly chokeholds; limit the transfer of military-grade equipment to police departments; and, most importantly, put into place several reforms to make it easier to hold police officers accountable for misconduct. If enacted, the Justice in Policing Act will be a critical first—but necessary first—step on the path towards racial reconciliation.

It is important to note that this legislation alone cannot right the wrongs of the past, nor will it guarantee the total prevention of injustices in the future. Rather, we must empower our communities to reimagine public safety in an equitable manner. This means reinvesting—not defunding—police department re-

sources to prioritize community-based safety efforts. Further, I am pleased that the Justice in Policing Act supports this proposal by providing public safety innovation grants for localities to reassess current practices.

To those who called, wrote, and visited my offices to relay your support for this bill, know that my vote today lends action to your voices. You have inspired me with your dedicated and tireless advocacy for justice, and it is because of you that I am optimistic for the success of our individual and collective cause.

Black lives matter, Madam Speaker, and it is past time that the laws of our nation reflect it. That is why I am urging my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill. It goes sans saying that I strongly encourage its immediate consideration and passage in the Senate.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

### MARCH 3

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Polly Ellen Trottenberg, of New York, to be Deputy Secretary of Transportation.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brenda Mallory, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality, and Janet Garvin McCabe, of Indiana, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-562

Committee on Finance

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, Katherine C. Tai, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, and Adeyale O. Adeyemo, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury.

SH-216

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Wendy Ruth Sherman, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, and Brian P. McKeon, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources, both of the Department of State.

SD-106/VTC

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol.

SD-G50/WEBEX

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations.

WEBEX

### MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Colin Hackett Kahl, of California, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress, and the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of David Turk, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of Energy.

SD-366

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To continue hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations.

WEBEX

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine how the financial system hurts workers and widens the racial wealth gap.

WEBEX

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Director, and Jason Scott Miller, of Maryland, to be Deputy Director for Management, both of the Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342/WEBEX

### MARCH 9

9 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General, and Vanita Gupta, of Virginia, to be Associate Attorney General, both of the Department of Justice.

SH-216

### MARCH 18

10 a.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To resume hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of veterans services organizations.

WEBEX